Inter-City Expressways

3928. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government arc planning to construct 2000 kms. of Inter-city Expressways in the country;

(b) whether it would be a Central Government project or a joint project of the Central and concerned State Governments or private sector's participation would be sought;

(c) by when the work on this project is likely to commence; and

(d) the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) At present there is no proposal to construct inter-city expressways in the country.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Drunken driving in Delhi

3929. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether one of the main reasons for road accidents in Delhi is drunken driving;

(b) if so, the number of accidents occurred during the last three years in Delhi and the number of persons arrested due to drunken driving; and

(c) what exemplary punishment is being awarded to the persons driving under influence of drugs and alcohol during late night hours and festivities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RQAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) According to information obtained from Commissioner of Police, Delhi, Drunken driving is one of the causes of road accidents.

(b) Total number of aecidents and persons arrested for drunken driving during the last three years are as follows:

Year	Total No. of Accidents	No. of Persons Arrested for Drunken Driving
1999	9909	19 -
2000	10245	26
2001	9344	32

(c) Section 185 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 provides for punishment for drunken driving. The first offence is punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees, or with both and for a second or subsequent offence, if committed, within three years of the commission of the previous similar offence, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine which may extend to three thousand rupees, or with both. The offence is not compoundable under section 200 Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. A violator can also be arrested without warrant under section 202 Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 by a police officer. The provision of Section 185 Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 does not differentiate driving under influence of drugs and alcohol during day or night or during festivities or otherwise.

Road Accidents in Delhi

3930. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been highest number of accidental deaths in the capital;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the authorities have failed to take stringent steps matching the ever increasing traffic resulting the highest number of accidental deaths as well as injuries to road users in Delhi; and